



BASEBALL
Men's team slugs past Southern Illinois with 18 runs
SEE PAGE 8



Country boys rock out at Event Center
SEE PAGE 5

Spartan Daily

Serving San José State University since 1934

Thursday, March 11, 2010

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Volume 134, Issue 23



*Photo illustration by Stefan Armijo

Students break away from driving alone

Justin Albert
Staff Writer

Parking permit revenue sales are down this semester as students may be looking to use alternative forms of transportation to get to SJSU, said a public information officer for the University Police Department.

"People are not parking illegally any more than they normally are," said Sgt. John Laws. "We're just not getting as many cars as we use to."

He said the garages may be having difficulty reaching capacity because of cuts in enrollment and other budget-related issues.

"The garages tend to fill up mostly between 8 a.m. and noon," Laws said. "And so far we've only had the Seventh Street garage fill up completely once."

Laws said he didn't know exactly why students aren't frequenting the garages and buying permits.

"I don't know if they're finding other alternatives, but we are seeing a definite drop in parking use,"

he said.

The lack of parking permit sales hasn't hurt parking services in a significant way, but there could come a time when parking services has to reduce staff in order to meet the budget requirements of losing significant amounts of revenue, Laws said.

"Parking is one of those auxiliaries on campus that is self-funded, so no general fund money comes to run parking," he said.

See PARKING, Page 2

A.S. presidential candidates strive for change

Eric Van Susteren
Staff Writer

Presidential candidates for the 2010 Associated Students election in April are preparing to face issues such as budget cuts, low student involvement and a lack of student awareness, said the A.S. chief elections officer.

"We've always had a low turnout for the elections voter-wise, and we're really just trying to get more awareness of A.S. government," said Cree Daniels, a senior hospitality management major.

Daniels said voter turnout is the major priority for the 2010 election.

"We have 32,000 students and only 2,000 showed up to vote last year," she said. "That's an extremely low percentage. It's less than the people who live on campus."

Daniels said this year the A.S. elections board will be increasing the money spent on raising awareness and student involvement.

"I think especially with the budget cuts people are going to want to know what their money is going to," she said. "This is technically their organization. They need to know what kinds of things A.S. can do for them."

Budget concerns are one of the most pressing issues for students, said senior kinesiology major Domingo Castellanos, who is running for A.S. president.

"If this costs any more, I'm not going to be able to go to school here either," he said.

Castellanos said his position as president of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity has helped him prepare for the A.S. presidency.

"I learned to set deadlines for myself, be efficient and make tough decisions," he said. "The correct decisions."

Ivan Ng, a member of the Delta Sigma Phi fraternity, said he thinks being in a fraternity would give a candidate an edge in the elections.

"The Greek community is really active about voting from what I've seen," said Ng, a junior graphic design major. "It definitely helps if you have that many more friends and brothers and sisters as support."

Ng said he would want a qualified candidate elected to office.

"It shouldn't just come down to who has the biggest group of friends," he said.

See ELECTION, Page 4

Students, faculty weigh in on Proposition 8

Donovan Farnham
Staff Writer

The federal court case regarding the validity of Proposition 8 is a question of whether the 14th Amendment applies to same-sex couples and the LGBT community, according to James Brent, a SJSU political science professor.

In November 2008, Californians passed Proposition 8 establishing that marriage is defined as a union between a man and a woman, according to the

San Francisco Chronicle.

If the decisions regarding marriage were left up to SJSU students, then Judge Vaughn Walker, the federal judge hearing the case, would hear different opinions.

Billal Asghar, a global studies and health science double major, said if a person's actions aren't hurting someone, then they should be given free rein on how they live their lives, but that majority decisions should still stand.

"I'm for a democracy if we want our

system to work," he said. "I do believe we should vote on something over and over again and it shouldn't be up to one person, one judge or a group of people to decide for the majority."

Asghar said that minority groups, be they religious or ethnic or otherwise, should stick together to protect one another's rights because if the rights of one group are taken away then there isn't a guarantee for the rest.

Billy Ray Haynes, a senior political science and justice studies double ma-

jor, said he voted in favor of Proposition 8, but takes a centrist point of view and thinks that same-sex couples should still be allowed to legally be together.

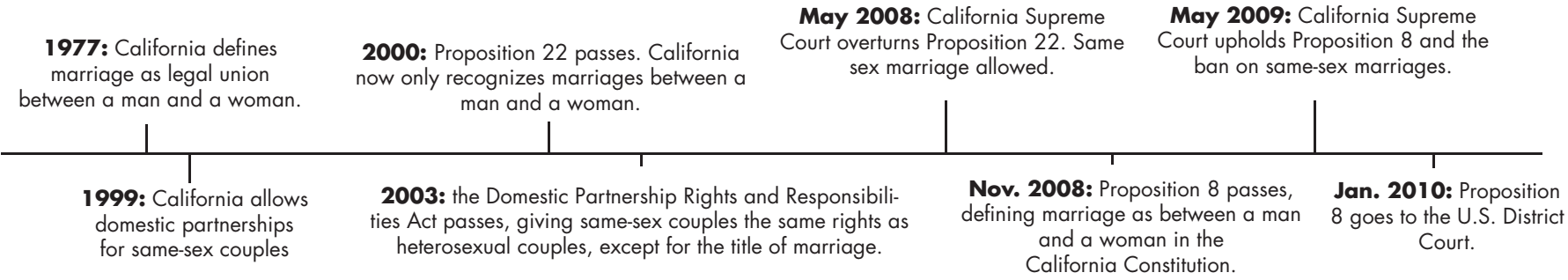
"I didn't really have a reason," he said. "It may have been an ignorant choice on my part, but I see marriage as between a man and a woman."

The ruling on the Proposition 8 case depends on whether same-sex couples are considered a suspect class said

See PROP 8, Page 2

HISTORY OF SAME-SEX MARRIAGE IN CALIFORNIA

*Courtesy of UC Berkeley's Same Sex Overview and issues Web site, The Christian Science Monitor, The Los Angeles Times



Weather



F	S
Hi: 59° Lo: 42°	Hi: 60° Lo: 42°

THESPARTANDAILY.COM

Video: Meet the candidates: A.S. presidential election at [thespartandaily.com](#)

SPARTAN DAILY BLOGS

Learn more about honorary degrees for Japanese-Americans interned in World War II. Also, check out a VTA phone app made by an SJSU student at [spartandailynews.wordpress.com](#)

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Stefan Armijo / Spartan Daily

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CAMPUS VOICES

BY ASHLEY FINDEN

How do you get to school and why that form of transportation?

Eric Rizo
Freshman, Psychology



I take my car. It seems a little bit easier. It's quicker than taking the public transportation. The nearest one, it would take like half an hour, whereas taking my car would take like 10 to 15 minutes.

Fahrim Kabir
Senior, Aerospace Engineering



I drive. I tried looking for a VTA route and it's kind of difficult because I live on a hill, so there's no transportation from the hill going down, so it's faster if I drive here.

Justin Yip
Senior, English



I drove to school today. I live down Santa Clara Street so it's not too far. It's like 13 blocks from campus and driving is just the most convenient.

Matt Cooper
Sophomore, History



I take the VTA, the light rail. It's free. You get a pass or sticker, and you just take it anywhere you want.

Tehguin Tanner
Senior, Health Science



I use a skateboard to get to school, and the reason I use a skateboard is 'cause it's a quicker way to get to class and it's a quicker way to get to campus.

Joy Shang
Junior, Business Management



I always drive to the light rail and then take light rail and walk here. It actually saves a lot of gas and also I really didn't want to pay all those couple of hundred of dollars for the parking permits.

PARKING

From Page 1

A Fall 2009 survey conducted by Transportation Solutions suggests that 46.8 percent of students are using alternative forms of transportation to get to school, which include the Valley Transportation Authority bus and light rail, regional transit, carpooling and bicycling.

"We do surveys every year and they have been showing an increasing trend in alternative forms of transportation," said Eyedin Zonobi, manager of Transportation Solutions at SJSU.

According to the survey, since Fall 2001 the number of students taking alternative forms of transportation has risen 22.4 percent while VTA use has risen 21.3 percent.

Amanda Dougherty, a sophomore molecular biology major, said she takes VTA because of financial reasons.

"I can't afford a parking permit with all of the fee hikes,"

she said. "It would be so much more convenient if I could just park on campus, but it's just not possible."

Driving alone to campus amounted to less than half of all forms of transportation to SJSU in Fall 2009, according to the survey.

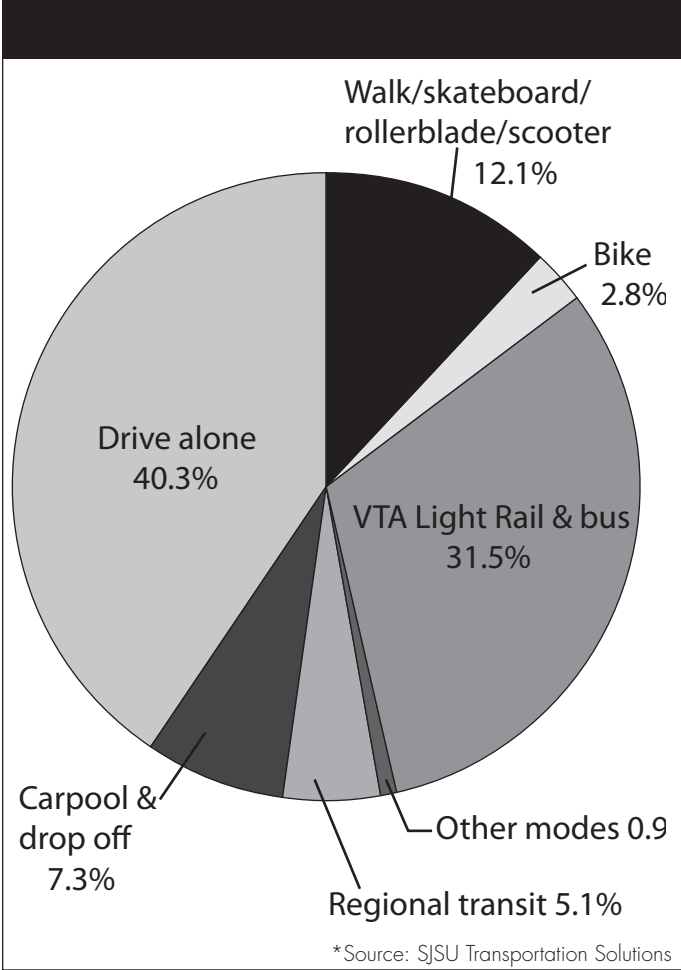
VTA is a viable option in terms of convenience, said Brent Baer, a junior radio, television and film major.

"It's almost easier and quicker to take VTA than driving," he said. "Light rail is never really too crowded, and I have to walk a couple of blocks to get to campus, but it's not that bad at all."

Alternative forms of transportation have many benefits, Zonobi said, including being more environmentally friendly and helping reduce parking issues on campus.

"We don't have enough parking, so alternative forms of transportation reduce the impact on SJSU's parking facilities," he said. "It also reduces traffic to campus and downtown at the same time."

HOW STUDENTS GET TO SCHOOL (FALL 2009)



PROP 8

From Page 1

Brent, chair of the political science department.

He said a "suspect class" is a politically weak and suppressed group, and said he thinks same-sex couples meet the requirements.

In this sense, Brent said gays fit the definition and would then fall under the protection of the 14th Amendment.

"All you have to do is take a look at the definition of a suspect class," he said. "It tends to be a politically powerless and insular minority that has a history of discrimination against them."

Jim Campbell, a lawyer with the Alliance Defense Fund, an organization fighting to uphold Proposition 8, said the argument isn't valid because gays have yet to be proven as a suspect class in federal court.

The Alliance Defense Fund, according to its Web site, is a group of Christian lawyers who represent cases involving marriage law and religious expression.

Campbell said the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals set a precedent that sexual orientation does not fall under a suspect class because the concept of sexual orientation in social science literature is unclear.

"It's a very unworkable standard to set that as a suspect classification," he said. "Most suspect classifications we deal with in the law, such as race, are very cut and dried, not

as something as complex and debated, as unclear and undefined as sexual orientation is."

Jeff Lind, a senior behavioral science and sociology major, said he thinks the LGBT community should fall under the suspect classification.

"I think it definitely does deserve, at least, some consideration to be a suspect class considering immutable characteristics fall under that," he said. "There are a lot of people coming out and saying that it's not something you choose — it's something you're born with. It could be developed in the womb environment and there doesn't really seem to be a way to change it."

The majority vote on Proposition 8 is another sticking point for the two arguments because California voters decided to define marriage as between a man and a woman, Campbell said.

Protecting the people's majority vote is part of social policy and should be upheld, he said.

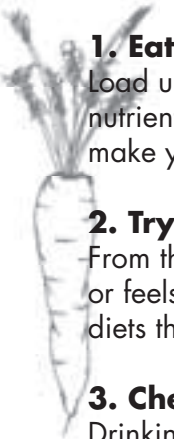
"When you're dealing with important matters of social policy, it's important to allow the people to have the final say," Campbell said.

Brent said the balance between the majority rule and minority rights is a problem within democracies.

"The majority has a right to rule," Brent said. "But they don't have a right to oppress the minority and this case covers both."

The trial ended on Jan. 27, but Judge Vaughn Walker has yet to schedule closing arguments.

TOP 10 NUTRITION TIPS



1. Eat a rainbow every day

Load up half your plate with colorful fruits and vegetables. The nutrients found in your vegetables boost your immune system and make you shine.

2. Try eating instead of dieting

From the tuna diet to the lemon detox diet, nothing works as well or feels as good as eating a variety of foods. Be skeptical of the diets that eliminate entire food groups and promise quick results.

3. Chew your calories

Drinking calories will not fill you up like food does. One can of coke a day can add 16 pounds of body fat in one year. (So can sweetened ice teas, lemonades, juice or any sweet beverage.)

4. Eat more calcium and vitamin D

Add three cups of 1 percent or nonfat milk, soy milk, Lactaid or yogurt to give you strong bones, healthy skin and healthy weight.

5. Being a couch potato is as bad for your health as smoking

Moving 30 minutes every day is the No. 1 way to boost your immune system and maintain a healthy weight.

6. White bread blues

Choosing oats, whole wheat breads and cereals, corn and brown rice will give you more protein, fiber and keep your energy stable during the day.

7. Are you hungry or full

Waiting 20 minutes after you eat will give your body time to receive the "fullness signal."

8. Don't drown your food

Try a burrito without the sour cream or a salad with half of the dressing. Every time you reduce added fats, it will make a big difference.

9. Make friends, not fat cells

Share dessert with your friends and avoid getting over-hungry. This will help you choose sweets less often and consume fewer calories overall.

10. Play mind games

Your perception plays a big role in how much you eat and when you feel full. Using a smaller plate or cup will reduce your portion size.

*Tips courtesy of Student Health Center info sheet.



Nutrition team exercises students' health habits

Ashley Finden
Staff Writer

Having a proper and balanced diet helps students with more than their weight and physique, but also with their academics, according to a campus nutritionist.

"Diet is so important for college students to know about because it plays such an important role in academic performance," said Jennifer Waldrop.

The Nutrition Education Action Team, a recognized student organization that is run by students who lead workshops and programs, focuses on improving eating and the quality of food eaten on campus, said Waldrop, the team's adviser.

She said the team holds events for students and faculty members to attend throughout the semester.

An example of events led by the team led was "100% Diet-free" held on Feb. 23, as listed on a schedule from the Student Health Center.

At this workshop, there were games and hands-on activities for guests.

Some topics covered at this event were ineffective diet plans, the effects of a sedentary lifestyle and methods to help maintain a healthy weight.

Senior spanish major Yesica Lopez said she has never heard of the team before but thinks having programs and workshops that educate students about healthy eating habits would be a positive thing.

"I think we should have students who help us with our diet because (most) of the students are obese," Lopez said.

Waldrop said the team began as nothing more than a master's project 12 years ago that modeled peer-to-peer nutritional education.

"The promotion of NEAT and programs, it's constant," Waldrop said. She also said being part of a commuter school makes it harder for the team to get its name out.

She said the team doesn't always feel its name is recognized by students every semester.

"Some semesters you feel like it really clicks and the word is out there, and sometimes you feel it's not quite there," Waldrop said.

The team is just one of the groups available at the Student Health Center, she said.

"There's another group called PHE, which are the Peer Health Educators," Waldrop said, which cover topics such as alcohol, drugs and violence prevention.

Waldrop said having a program where other students spread the word about personal health is much more effective than having a professional talk down to them.

"If you really want to make a difference in students' health and the way they live their lives, rather than going from a professional top-down level," she said.

Lopez said she feels that having peers teach other students is beneficial.

The nutritional advice and education offered through the team can benefit students for their entire lives, Waldrop said.

"A lot of the health behaviors that you have right now, as far as eating and stress management, these are things

that stay with you for the rest of your life," she said. "So any kind of positive change you can make right now is really an investment in the quality of your life right now as well as your future."

Kelley DeGoode, a graduate student in occupational therapy, said she feels that people will choose healthy foods if they are out there.

"As long as the options are available, I see people going for healthy options," DeGoode said.

Waldrop said the peers of the team guide students in acquiring and keeping a healthy diet as well as to gain interest in the issue.

"We really show the how-to," she said.

Sophomore psychology major Anthony Bona said he thinks the team might help students eat healthier.

"If it's informative and helps get students on the right path to having a balanced diet, then I would say it's really helpful," he said.

Waldrop said eating certain foods that fuel brain function can help students stay stimulated throughout the day, improving focus and concentration.

"One of the roles in diet that is often overlooked is that a healthy diet can really help improve your grades," she said.

Vincent Woodruff, a graduate student in English, said people do not necessarily need to learn more about a balanced diet, but should be more active in their diet.

"I think everyone should understand what they're intaking," Woodruff said.

AROUND DOWNTOWN SAN JOSE

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
12	13	14
<p>Alternative country band Three Bad Jacks rocks the Blank Club (44 S. Almaden Ave.) ... Tickets are \$10 ... "Cowpunk" starts at 10 p.m.</p> <p>Folk singer-songwriter Vicki Genfan (Guitar Player Magazine's Player of the Year) opens the sixth annual Guitar Solo and Ensemble Festival at Le Petit Trianon Theatre (72 N. Fifth St.) ... Tickets are \$25 reserved seating, \$15 unreserved ... Finger-picking begins at 7 p.m.</p>	<p>San Jose Sharks host the Florida Panthers at HP Pavilion (525 W. Santa Clara St.) in the only game between the teams this season ... Tickets range from \$21 to \$182 ... Puck drops at 1 p.m.</p> <p>More than 100 local artists display one-of-a-kind works in Monotype Marathon 2010 exhibit at the San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art (560 S. First St.) ... Entrance is free ... Open from noon until 5 p.m.</p>	<p>Musical fun with the first Broadway collaboration between George and Ira Gershwin, Theater On San Pedro Square (29 N. San Pedro St.) presents "Lady, Be Good"... Tickets range from \$15 to \$24 ... Show starts at 2 p.m.</p> <p>Last showing of Tony Award-winning "25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" at Montgomery Theater (271 S. Market St.) ... Tickets are \$22 ... Laughter commences at 1 p.m.</p>

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‘Transsexual Sweetheart’ recounts tough transition

Anna-Maria Kostovska
Staff Writer

Calpernia Addams, “America’s Transsexual Sweetheart,” said she is now comfortable being imperfect, even though some people had told her she would look hideous as a woman.

“It got to the point where I (said) ... if I don’t do this, I don’t know if I want to be alive,” Addams said.

More than 100 people attended Addams’ event “Trans 101 with America’s Transsexual Sweetheart, Calpernia Addams” in the SJSU University Room at noon on Wednesday.

Addams began by showing a slide show titled “Media in Transition,” which showed how various forms of media throughout history have depicted “trans people” — this phrase, along with “trans women” and “trans men,” was terminology used by Addams during the event.

She said that trans women have been scrutinized by the media, because they are less likely to blend into society than trans men.

Addams said the passage of time has changed the perception of trans people and that new media such as the Internet have enabled trans people to show who they are.

She said certain movies have shone a negative light on trans people, using the movie “Amer-

ican Psycho” as an example to demonstrate that it doesn’t matter how much some people argue that the main character, Patrick Bateman, is not a trans person.

“People don’t listen to that,” Addams said. “They remember the images they see, and the image they see (in ‘American Psycho’) is somebody they perceive with a male body dressed in women’s clothes, with a knife going in and out of the pretty lady.”

Senior psychology ma-

“It got to the point where I (said) ... if I don’t do this, I don’t know if I want to be alive.”

Calpernia Addams
“America’s Transsexual Sweetheart”

ior Jessica Moreno said she thought the event was an eye-opening experience.

“I found (Addams) very charismatic and personable, which I really enjoyed,” she said.

During a brief question-and-answer session after her lecture, Addams said her life during and after the transition has been a tough journey.

“(Transition is) never easy, it’s never perfect and it’s never over,” she said. “But it does get easier, it does get better and it does get less important as you progress into your life.”

Junior art major Esther Fuentes said the event was informative and that she was glad she had been able to attend.

Fuentes said she found it interesting to learn about what trans people go through in their lives, aside from the physical changes, and that events such as Addams’ lecture help bring awareness to the transgender community.

Senior health major Vincent Glass said he found the event to be a learning experience.


Glass said he also liked the panel discussion that followed Addams’ lecture and the fact that the panelists — Danielle Anderson-Castro, Dante, Amanda Clark and Skye Anderson — were a diverse group.

One of the panelists, Dante, said he is a senior art major who transitioned recently while attending classes at SJSU.

He said one of the main reasons some trans people take hormones is to be who they have always felt they are.

Anderson-Castro, who said not all trans people take hormones, also said that people should look at gender as a spectrum rather than binary.

“We’re not crazy just because we’re transgender,” she said.



(From left to right) The A.S. presidential candidates: Domingo Castellanos, Paul Yula, Tomasz Kolodziejak.

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY STEFAN ARMIGO

ELECTION

From Page 1

Castellanos said his intimate knowledge of what students want and need would make him an excellent A.S. president.

“I believe I can bring all my different skills and programming and knowledge of the university back to A.S. and help the student body,” he said.

Castellanos said his position as an orientation leader for incoming freshmen taught him the ability to think on his feet and adjust quickly to situations.

“This is my first experience in a position inside A.S., so I’m still learning,” he said. “I have experience talking to officials and working on the front lines with students, so it’s not like I’m starting brand new.”

Tomasz Kolodziejak, who is also running for president, said he thinks his current position as A.S. director of intercultural affairs has prepared him for the job.

“In order to change something, it’s crucial to know how it works and I feel I know how A.S. works well,” Kolodziejak said. “I’m good at listening to people and I communicate well with different students.”

Abhay Borade, a senior aviation management major, said someone already in the A.S. system would be more qualified than others.

“You’d waste a lot of time trying to train them and it wouldn’t be until the third or fourth month that they really learned the position,” he said. “You want someone who knows the logistics of what’s already in place in the organization.”

Few students know the A.S. president is the CEO of a

\$7 million nonprofit organization, Kolodziejak said.

“Most people don’t realize what a huge responsibility it is,” he said. “Someone responsible should take the job and students should be well-informed because this is really a big deal.”

Kolodziejak said being an international business major would help him in his position as A.S. president.

Senior accounting major Jared Lee said fighting fee increases should be the No. 1 priority for A.S.

“I’d vote for the one who worked the hardest to lower tuition,” he said.

Funding for higher education is the most important issue in 2010, Kolodziejak said.

“I can’t guarantee that we’ll stop the budget cuts, but I can guarantee that we’ll fight to stop the budget cuts,” he said.

Kolodziejak said students should come to the A.S. House when they need help.

“A.S. should be a symbol of trust and a home away from home, especially for commuters,” he said.

Kolodziejak said raising student awareness about A.S. is crucial.

“In order to really help someone, they need to know you exist,” he said. “We should reach out to all communities — Greek, international and to different ethnic groups and departments on campus.”

The third presidential candidate, Paul Yula, said his older sister’s position as a BART representative and his mother’s position as a teacher’s union representative made political awareness a part of his life.

“Hearing their stories taught me issues about bureaucracy and the roadblocks for people on the ground doing the real work,” he said.

Yula, a senior animation and illustration major, said he first became involved in campus politics when he read the Student Union was being renovated.

“I wanted to know why there were crumbling walls in the Art building while we were building a state-of-the-art Student Union,” he said. “Very few students knew they were actually paying for a new Student Union in an economy with budget cuts.”

Yula said he decided to run for office after seeing the scope of the issues on campus.

Ismael Barrera, a senior justice studies major, said he’d be most likely to vote for someone who tried to raise enrollment for qualified students.

“I’d want a candidate that knows what students are going through and fights for the individuals that really want to be here,” he said. “That’s what a lot of people here need — just help and support.”

Yula said he wanted to make the resources that are available more accessible and well-known.

“There are so many students who are smart and talented people and I think we have a lot of potential,” he said. “I think students are very low on the priority list.”

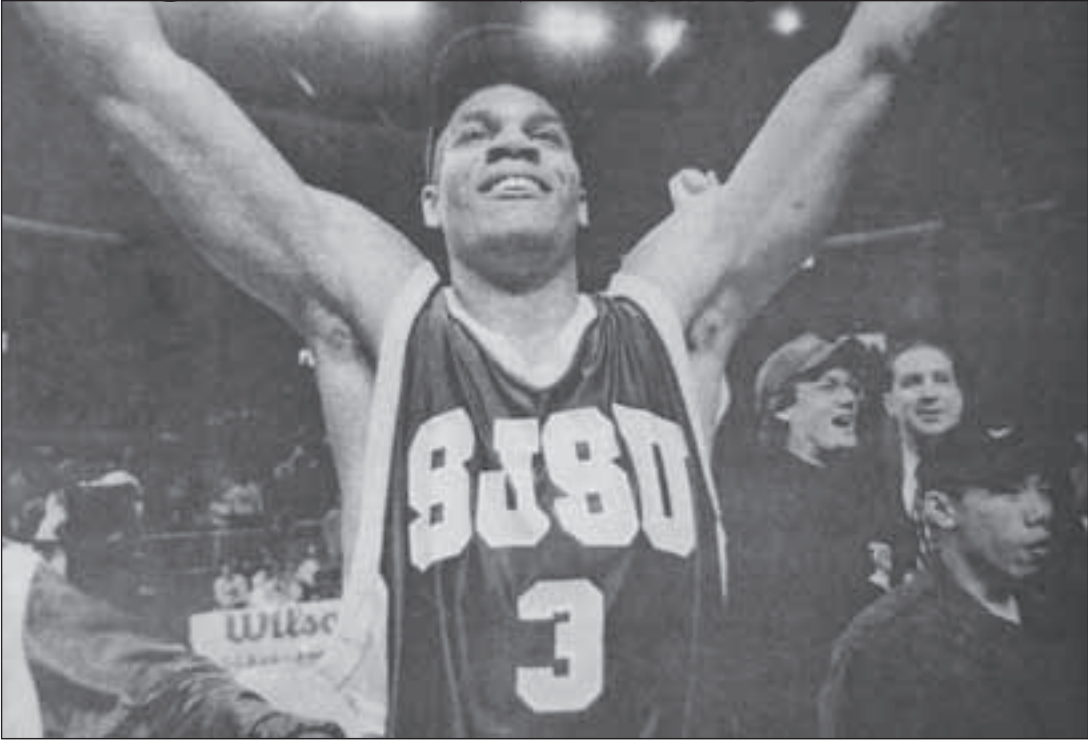
The skills necessary for the animation and illustration major would be valuable for an A.S. president, Yula said.

“It taught me self-discipline and time management,” he said. “I learned to break complex tasks into workable parts.”

Yula said he was concerned about transparency and accessibility in A.S.

“People care about what happens on campus,” he said. “It just needs to be made convenient for them.”

THIS DAY IN HISTORY



On March 11, 1996 the Spartan Daily reported that ...

Olivier Saint-Jean celebrates the SJSU men's basketball team's victory over Utah State 76-75, winning the Big West Championship (above). Saint-Jean is now known as Tariq Abdul-Wahad.

- Students in Hoover, Allen and Moulder halls had to look for alternate sources of entertainment after their 52-inch big screen televisions were stolen.
- Associated Students awarded the Interfraternity Council \$7,000 to send information booklets about fraternities and sororities to incoming students.

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Melissa Sabile
Staff Writer



The Zac Brown Band breaks southern ground in Northern California during Wednesday night's performance at SJSU.

The Event Center was packed with cowboys and country girls, all waiting anxiously for Zac Brown to come on stage.

Joey and Rory, a country-singing husband and wife duo, hosted the show and the crowd screamed along as they played their hit song "Cheater, Cheater."

Although the tour featured openers Levi Lowrey, Sonia Leigh, and Nic Cowan, Zac Brown stayed on stage the entire night, playing and singing along with each artist.

Levi Lowrey and Sonia Leigh were both typical country artists, but the heartthrob opener was newcomer Nic Cowan.

Easy on the eyes and with a husky country voice, Cowan started out with a song off his new CD — produced by none other than Zac Brown himself — and got the audience singing along with the catchy tune "Gutter Song."

Cowan then performed another song called "Hard Headed," which was about being who you are and not worrying about what others think of you.

Cowan then shared the

mic with Zac Brown to sing a new, slower duet song "Reno," which tugged at the audiences' heartstrings.

On the stage, Cowan shared with the audience that the most important things in life were "good beer, good music, and good friends," as he closed with a crowd favorite, "Cuttin' Loose."

Brief video footage played on a screen, allowing the audience to have a backstage look at what has been going on with the Breaking Southern Ground Tour so far.

The crowd cheered as the video showed Zac Brown Band winning its first Grammy for the best new artist.

Then, as the lights went dead, Zac Brown walked back on stage and started singing his hit song "Whatever It Is."

The band continued to play its familiar hit songs, and then startled the crowd with a new song "Falling In Love As She's Walking Away," which harmonized not only the voices of the band members, but their instruments as well.

Bassist John Hopkins' ability to jam impressed me and gave me a new appreciation for his role in the band.

Coy Bowles changed it up as he went from guitar to cello and back to guitar, making each switch with as much country twang as he could.

My favorite member of the band was Jimmy De Martini,



Zac Brown Band performed Wednesday night at the Event Center.
PHOTOS BY MELISSA SABILE / SPARTAN DAILY

because he played the most amazing fiddle I've ever heard.

As flames flew up on the monitors, Zac Brown Band played an old country favorite, "The Devil Went Down to Georgia," and rocked it better than Charlie Daniels could.

The song played in what seemed like double time as each band member mashed on

their instruments, making the song more electric than ever.

But the highlight of the night was when Zac Brown Band belted out its hit song "Chicken Fried," and had the entire crowd singing along.

This was the best country concert I've seen in a long time.

Zac Brown Band turned the Breaking Southern Ground tour into a fun, heart-felt concert and left me wanting to see them in concert again.



Nic Cowan opened Zac Brown Band on Wednesday night at the Event Center.



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Micah Jeffries
SJSU Undergraduate Student

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Mystery thriller searches for justice

Eric Bennett
Staff Writer



In James Patterson’s newest mystery novel, “Worst Case,” it’s up to family man and NYPD cop Michael Bennett and stalwart FBI agent Emily Parker to thwart a serial killer’s torturous attempt at saving the world.

This read was a thrill ride from the get-go. The riveting suspense made it impossible to put down until I finished reading, just days after flipping past the first page. If you love hanging on the edge of your seat, like I was even in the discomfort of a bus seat, you’ll enjoy this page-turner.

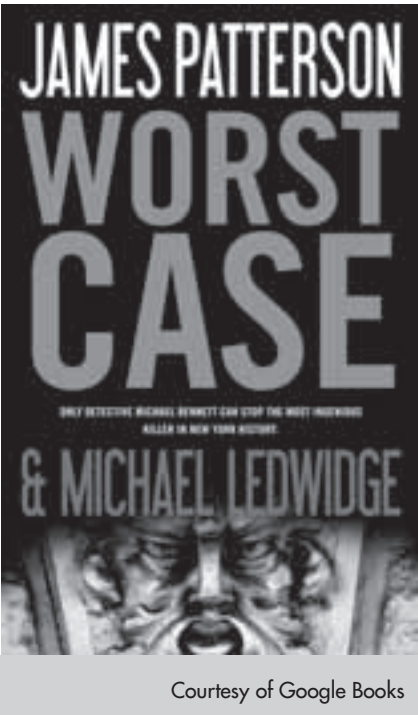
The book’s kidnapping anarchist, Francis X. Mooney, juggles abducting children with his job at a lawyer advocacy group, which he describes as a “Forbes 100, top-flight, bill-or-die” corporate firm.

He has access to some of the highest net worth individuals on the East Coast because he also works as a philanthropy consultant. With a naturally gifted mind and the help of drugs such as speed, he stays one step ahead of the law.

Bennett, a single dad with 10 kids, is a sarcastic, salt-and-pepper-haired cop who lives to hunt down people like Mooney — when the circus at his house isn’t full-blown.

His partner Parker, is a sassy, successful, I-can-hold-my-own type of federal agent. But she also has a kind side to her — as a single mother, she can appreciate how hard Bennett works to keep his family afloat.

What I enjoy most about reading this genre is that there is less time spent on numerous character developments and more pages devoted to action, all while bringing major world and political issues to the forefront of readers’ minds.



Courtesy of Google Books

We find out Mooney is suffering from terminal lung cancer and is on some crazy vigilante mission to bring order to the U.S. He has an issue with how negligent Americans are regarding real-life world issues, such as “abject hunger in the world’s richest nation” or how much gasoline the U.S. consumes.

I felt a connection to Mooney’s character, because I have always wanted to stand up for something I believe in but have never had the guts to do so.

Granted, most people in their right minds would never go to the great lengths Mooney does, but you can tell Patterson himself has a problem with how mum this country is on real issues, local and global.

The kidnapper’s first target is the son of Donald Dunning, billionaire CEO of Latvium, a multinational pharmaceutical company whose stock, Mooney believes, rises on the “corpses of the world’s poor.”

Mooney is convinced that a CEO such as Dunning could afford to save 20 lives with what he spends on his

shoes and is tired of the lazy Americans who do nothing to help.

Mooney takes matters into his own hands and begins subjecting the children of the nation’s wealthiest families to his own world affairs exam.

The questions are daunting and extraneous, considering what a child’s common knowledge would include. Patterson does a scary job of depicting how little we may actually know regarding matters outside of what we’ll consume next.

Mooney administers the tests to determine whether the kids are “worthy” enough to inhabit a world in which resources are becoming scarcer.

In a life-or-death midterm, the kids of the nation’s most wealthy men and women struggle to find the answers to their abductor’s questions — all with the most prestigious education money can buy.

Boy-crazy teenager Chelsea Skinner, for instance, doesn’t know how much clean water is used to wash her Dolce & Gabbana jeans or Abercrombie & Fitch shirt after her kidnapper tells her 1.1 billion people in the world lack access to fresh drinking water.

Meanwhile, Bennett and Parker are hot on Mooney’s trail, but the kidnapper is no slouch and was himself a young prodigy in the Ivy League.

The trails lead to dead ends such as the slums of the Bronx, where the abductor has left behind the “unworthy” in the basement boiler rooms of crack houses.

Mooney views New York City as a microcosm of what America truly is, a place built by slavery and war. It’s up to Bennett and Parker to get inside the head of the killer and stymie his deadly plot to counteract corruption and selfishness in America.

If you like suspense, you’ll enjoy this page-turner.

Even while reading uncomfortably in a cramped bus, my eyes couldn’t drift from the drama unfurling on the pages.

Organic energy drink revitalizes

Melissa Johnson
Staff Writer

The thought of writing note card after note card while studying for a midterm, reading through endless chapters in microscopic font, and writing three papers made we want to throw everything out the window and forget about my responsibility as a student altogether.

The tasks at hand appeared to be redundant and tiresome as the evening hours approached.

I’ll admit that I fall victim to consuming excessive amounts of coffee when necessary for these situations, and I’ve fallen prey to those mass-marketed energy drinks in the past.

But this time I was determined to reach for something new.

I needed an energy boost, so I opted to search for a drink in the one “healthy alternative” section at Safeway — and I discovered a winner that only cost me \$2.09.

Upon first glance, this 12-ounce evergreen aluminum can, with the words “Steaz Energy” on the label, appeared to bear resemblance to all those other highly caffeinated, sugar-saturated drinks that would be kryptonite to any diabetic.

The difference is that Steaz claims to be “organic fuel for the mind, body and soul,” which definitely sold me on the beverage — and the fact that it’s made with “Fair Trade Certified” green tea is a plus.

I’m all for respecting the community and the environment.

When drinking my usual coffee or energy drink, those ultra-jittery feelings I tend to have, which turn into migraine-inducing nightmares, haven’t served the purpose of keeping me alert and focused for extended periods of time — but Steaz definitely did the job.

With the first sip that hit my lips, I instantly noticed the taste of

DRINK OF THE WEEK

Melissa Johnson / Spartan Daily



lightly carbonated green tea, and with the next few sips, I could taste the acai berry-infused flavor too.

When I poured it into a glass, it looked like a typical golden-hued energy drink, but it certainly didn’t taste anything like

that. It had a more natural, earthy taste.

After consuming the whole can in less than 30 minutes, the wait had begun to see how my body would react to this new substance.

Wow — I actually did feel refreshed for hours.

I was genuinely attentive to my studies. I didn’t feel a massive rush of energy, coupled with a horrible breakdown that took every ounce of willpower left within me.

Quite the contrary, actually.

I was able to press on, well into the early morning hours and write and study efficiently as if I were doing it for fun.

My body reacted as if I had gotten a full, good night’s rest — that’s how energetic this drink made me feel. It’s ironic to me, the title of this drink, “Steaz.”

I think of style with ease, kind of like that hip-hop song, “You Know My Steez,” by Gang Starr. I recommend listening to that song while drinking this beverage and you’ll understand why drinking Steaz will set you apart from all those Monsters and Rockstars.

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8 4 7 2 6 1 9 5 3	6 3 1 2 4 5
2 6 3 5 9 8 1 7 4	
9 7 8 1 5 6 3 4 2	2 6 4 3 5 1
1 3 2 4 8 7 6 9 5	4 5 6 1 3 2
6 5 4 3 2 9 8 1 7	5 2 3 4 1 6
3 2 9 6 4 5 7 8 1	1 4 5 6 2 3
4 1 6 8 7 3 5 2 9	
7 8 5 9 1 2 4 3 6	

SUDOKU

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1	9						8	
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		6	4	8		1		7
		5					9	8
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7		8						

KENKEN

150x	3+		3	2÷
3+		6	7+	
	3	1-		5-
9+	9+			3÷
		16x	5-	8+
6			3-	

TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- Into the sunset
- Half, in combos
- Miles or Dushavina
- Xanadu's river
- Burned up
- Shaped or Ladd
- Casanova type
- Parts to be played
- Balance
- Flintstone pet
- Author — LeShan
- Zoo swingers
- Fair East staple
- shantier
- Twang or drawl
- Hip-hop (2 wds.)
- Some lenses
- Million suffix
- gin fuzz
- Rocky peak
- A long time
- Maj. ocean
- Brain scans
- Bohemian
- Zinc or tin
- Standards
- Alcove
- Churlish
- Revenuers
- Campy horror show actress
- Plunder
- Bus alternative
- Hotel staffer
- Colony members
- Seed covering
- Large cay
- Studio accessory
- Juniors
- Unisex wear
- Accordion parts
- Gentle exercise

DOWN

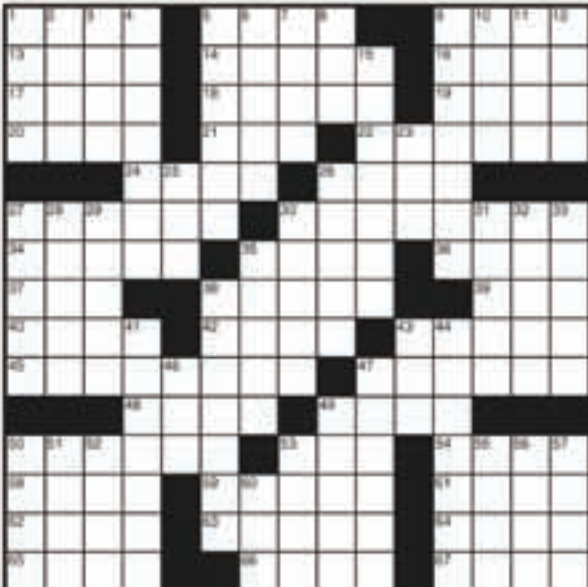
- Voting district
- Wells' oppressed race

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

PULL	LOUSTS	FINIS
RHEA	VROOM	IDEA
EONS	ELOPE	SLAM
PHASERS	SACHETS	
	IND	RAF
SPEEDUP	BEDROCK	
AIMS	ERRED	YARN
GPA	TION	TAE
APT	ICONS	BETA
SILENCE	YEARNED	
	RAE	LYE
IGNOBLE	GLEAMED	
LAOS	AWARE	DOME
KILO	NEVER	TRIM
STOL	DRAWS	HERO

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| 4 Axiom | 35 Cliffside abode |
| 5 Nonstop | 38 Gridiron gain |
| 6 Crumble away | 41 Long steps |
| 7 Actress — Powers | 43 Sz. option |
| 8 Graph ender | 44 Rapturous delight |
| 9 Diverse | 46 KLM |
| 10 Grade sch. | destination |
| 11 Speak hoarsely | 47 Insurgents |
| 12 Colony members | 49 Stick-in-the-mud |
| 15 Houdini tests | 50 Radiate |
| 23 Thoughtful | 51 Use a surgical beam |
| 25 Green card org. | 52 Despicable |
| 26 Dawdle | 53 Stratagem |
| 27 Montezuma's empire | 55 Slangy suffix |
| 28 Dove or pigeon | 56 DEER — (road sign) |
| 29 Welsh dog | 57 Rick's old flame |
| 30 Lasso | 60 Sturdy tree |
| 31 Dark gray | |
| 32 Tiny amounts | |



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Questioning my future

OK, I am definitely aware that I am not supposed to be having a midlife crisis for at least another 20 years, but at the tender age of 21, I find myself questioning what I'm doing with my life, wondering "Where do I go from here?"

As I was talking to my academic adviser, I realized that though my graduation is a year away, I have no concrete plans after college, other than to travel and visit a Third World country.

There is no way I'm going to move back in with my parents after four years of being on my own, and if I work at Nordstrom for another year, I will have a nervous breakdown!

If I don't fold another pair of jeans or greet another customer, that would be more than fine with me.

I remember in elementary school when the teacher assigned us to do oral reports about what we wanted to do when we were adults.

I can't help but notice that our ideas about what we wanted to be have changed drastically from what we are actually doing now.

My friend Christina wanted to be one of the first female astronauts in space. Instead, she works at the front desk of the Ritz Carlton hotel in San Francisco.

My other friend Sarah wanted to be a congresswoman, but now she is a secretary for a real estate company.

Most of my friends have either never been to or ever planned on going to college, but they are still useful members of society.

I'm not completely naive — I understand that attending a university does not guarantee a life of success and bliss.

All I want is a little insurance.

I find myself asking the question "Is the emotional and financial stress of college worth a person's mental well-being?"

I had a 10-year plan. I was going to graduate from college in four years, move to New York city and, after working a few dead-end jobs, Graydon Carter would love one of my many query letters and I would finally write for Vanity Fair magazine, becoming the Carrie Bradshaw



Jhenene Louis
Staff Writer

of journalism.

Easier said than done.

Next year will be my fifth year of college, and I barely have enough money to go to the grocery store let alone New York City.

I'm not saying I want to live the lifestyle of the rich and famous. I just want to be somewhat comfortable.

In my public relations class we had a guest speaker named Sheri Benjamin, CEO and founder of The Benjamin Group, a public relations and communications company.

She was a SJSU graduate who originally started out as a journalism major but switched to public relations.

I asked Benjamin why she switched and she told me she felt cheated, that journalism was not what she thought it would be.

I told her I had an emphasis in magazine journalism and that I wanted to have a career in fashion journalism.

Benjamin asked me what I thought was an easy question — did I want to make money or did I want to be poor?

I said make money, of course.

She told me to rethink my career path.

Although I found her advice to be cutthroat, I couldn't help but think that maybe she was right.

After talking with Benjamin, I asked myself whether it was really so simple to make decisions about the future I wanted for myself.

I realized this type of decision should be more complex. Sooner or later we all need to grasp reality, stop dreaming, and start actually living our lives.

The walking Bermuda Triangle

I am not a complete idiot when it comes to technology.

I grew up with my brother building computers in our family room while my dad and I played games on either the Commodore 128 or on the Atari 2600.

I do know something about the nuances of computers and can troubleshoot my way out of a lot of technological problems.

My theory is that technology simply hates me. There can be no other explanation for computers inexplicably shutting down in my presence without me pressing any buttons.

Every bad thing I could have ever imagined has happened to my computer, camera and anything else technological in my apartment.

I lived in Tanzania for eight months in 2008. I thought then that the humidity, dust and sand affected my phone, camera and laptop because they all died while I was there, but I realize now that technology and I don't get along.

My phone speaker completely quit working, so I could talk to people but not hear them.

My digital camera lens would not move and the camera refused to turn on without the lens in operating condition.

And my computer fan essentially exploded, which was fortunately fixable after my dad brought me a new fan.

There are no other explanations for why technology dies in my presence.

In my small apartment, my roommate recently "fixed" our wireless connection by changing the password.

The wireless connection didn't work well on my computer to begin with, and once the password was changed, everyone in my apartment, aside from me, was able to get on the Internet.

Did I do something to technology? Did I hurt it in some way? Did I aggravate the computer gods sometime during the age of 22?

To be honest, I think technology is pointless. What can I do with it anyway? I'm not going to be living in the United States much longer and the technology we use here will certainly not work in Third World countries.

I want to go back to the days of playing "The Adventures of Alice in Wonderland" on my Commodore 128, "Pong" on the Atari 2600, "Crystal Caves" on my DOS computer, "Sonic the Hedgehog" on Sega Genesis, or even "Spyro the Dragon" on the original PlayStation.

I've had numerous issues with laptops, other than the Internet connection problem at my apartment.

My favorite computer-related memory happened about two months ago.

Every day, I would turn on the laptop and wait. Some days, it booted up immediately. Some days, I would need to plug it in for the welcome screen to appear. And some days, the screen would remain black with a blinking white line in the top left corner.



Kristen Pearson
Staff Writer

The computer continued in this manner until one fateful Tuesday evening. I was putting my backpack into the backseat of a friend's car when it missed the seat and landed hard on the cement beside the car. I heard the crack of my laptop hitting the driveway.

After praying that my computer was OK, I finally got home, turned it

on and found that it finally was working again, like it used to work before the blinking line of doom ever appeared.

It turned on immediately, booted up immediately and completely skipped the blank screen with the blinking white dash.

What are the chances that dropping a laptop flat on the ground would finally get it to work properly?

Maybe that's what we should be doing to all technology. Any way you look at it, a nonfunctional computer or camera would not be any more damaged than before if you give them a good whack.

I've determined, however, that I am not technology illiterate, because I can easily troubleshoot my problems, and when I take the technology to experts, they go through the same motions I've already gone through.

I've decided I must be a technology impostor.

It's not that I don't want to work with technology — technology doesn't want me to work with it.

An ordinance you can't sit on

San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom went for a walk with his baby daughter on a Saturday.

On this morning walk, he saw someone on the sidewalk along Haight Street smoking crack.

Suddenly, it became clear for the mayor that anyone sitting or lying on the sidewalk could be dangerous.

This event prompted him to support the "sit/lie" citywide ordinance proposed by George Gascon, San Francisco's chief of police.

Forget about sitting down to tie your shoe.

The ordinance would give police officers the authority to arrest individuals who are sitting or lying on the sidewalk. It would be up to the police officers' judgment to determine who to inspect or ask to move off the sidewalk.

How about calling it the "ethnic race profiling/no more homelessness" ordinance?

Calling this ordinance "Sit/lie" doesn't make it justice.

There are hundreds of people who live on the streets of San Francisco, according to an article in the San Francisco Chronicle.

This seems to be the solution to make San Francisco attractive for tourists while displacing all the homeless people.

Sitting or lying on the sidewalk is not a crime.

Residents of the Haight-Ashbury neighborhood have been



Michelle Gachet
Rebel With Michelle

complaining over panhandling, according to a Feb. 27 article in the SF Chronicle.

Some of the Haight residents argue that individuals intimidate them with pit bulls, and residents of San Francisco apparently support this ordinance as a way to stop panhandling, intimidation and fear when walking on the street.

If someone demands that you give up your belongings with menacing, growling pit bulls, would they be sitting down?

I agree, there shouldn't be people using dogs as tools of intimidation on the street, but what does that have to do with sitting down or lying on the sidewalk?

Nothing at all.

The police argue that with the ordinance they could respond to crimes before they happen. If nothing happens, then what's the crime?

The police should find another way to enforce the already exist-

ing laws to stop panhandlers.

A similar law passed in the city of Santa Cruz, and the city's mayor, Mike Rotkin, said he thinks it's a positive law, during a KQED radio show with Michael Krasny.

When asked what would happen if the most vulnerable members of the community would be affected, Rotkin responded "there's always a potential for that."

Rotkin said the law that would make sitting down or lying on the sidewalk unacceptable behavior is "legal, constitutional and not real-

ly a violation of anybody's rights."

A similar law didn't pass in Portland, Ore. because it was found to be unconstitutional.

A Multnomah County judge ruled that "Portland's sidewalk law is unconstitutional because it gives police the power to ticket people for simply sitting on the edge of the sidewalk," according to a June 23 article in the Oregonian.

Prohibiting people from sitting and lying on the street does not solve anything. It's just a big excuse.



Jose Eduardo Morales / Contributing Illustrator

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Spartan hit parade tames Salukis



Eric Bennett
Staff Writer

The Spartans rode an early offensive explosion to an 18-6 victory over Southern Illinois on Wednesday night.

SJSU cranked out seven hits and seven runs in the second inning alone to jump out to an early lead. Spartans' third baseman Zach Jones sparked the early onslaught with a two-run triple.

The Spartans (5-5) were hoping to build some momentum heading into a daunting stretch of five games in as many days, said head coach Sam Piraro.

"The hitting took a step forward," he said. "We still have our issues. Our pitching is not where we want it to be, but we had a great approach to hitting."

The Salukis (4-7) got on the board in the third inning when Michael Stalter was struck by an errant pitch from SJSU pitcher Craig Broussard with the bases loaded.

SJSU kept the heat up in the next three innings, adding multiple runs in each. Spartan infielder Alex Sofranac had an RBI-single and Jones added an RBI-double in the fifth inning to put the game seemingly out of reach.

Jones said the team's success was due in large part to adjustments it made to its hitting techniques in practice after it was outscored 25-11 in its three-game series with Santa Clara last weekend.

"After the Santa Clara series, we were down on ourselves," said Jones, who finished 3-for-5 with four RBI. "This was just what we needed."

Jones was a home run away from a cycle, recording a single, double and triple. Jones even offered his pitching services in the ninth inning.

Piraro said that Jones is making strides as a hitter and has the potential to be a game-changer.

"As he develops, Zach will become a prolific player," he said. "He still has a lot to learn."

Starting pitcher Esteban Guzman (1-3) notched the victory for the Spartans despite only two innings of work. Guzman struck out five of the six batters he faced.

"He was explosive," Piraro said of Guzman's performance. "His breaking ball was very crisp. He was pitching aggres-

sively and working the counts."

In limited action, Guzman made the most of it and was on target from the start, giving up only one run. With the busy schedule ahead for SJSU, the Spartans had planned on rotating in multiple pitchers.

Salukis starting pitcher Aaron Snyder was dealt the loss after giving up the first seven runs before being yanked in the second inning. Southern Illinois finished with 11 hits.

Spartans first basemen Breyon Canez finished 0-for-0 but still contributed two RBI in sacrifice situations.

"I was just trying to help out the team anyway I could," Canez said. "Tonight I was able to do that without actually getting any hits."

Spartans second basemen Karson Klauer was 3-for-5 with three RBI.

The Spartans finished with 21 hits and Piraro said that was because how patient his players were at the plate.

"I was very pleased with our hitters approach," he said. "Our lineup across the board was very disciplined. That was definitely the highlight, which is very rewarding as a coach."

This was just what we needed.

Zach Jones
Third baseman



Zach Jones (above) looks at a strike during the Spartans 18-6 win over Southern Illinois on Wednesday. Jones was a home run short of hitting for the cycle. Corey Valine (left) rounds third in SJSU's rout of the Salukis. Salukis Infielder Blake Pannon (right) slides into second base as SJSU's Karson Klauer tries to turn a double play. The Spartans are now 5-5 this season. SJSU heads into a five-team tournament this weekend with Santa Clara, Air Force, UC Davis and Southern Illinois.

CLIFFORD GRODIN AND NELSON ABURTO / Spartan Daily



Jack Gifford Memorial Tournament

Who: Air Force, UC Davis, Santa Clara and Southern Illinois

Where: Municipal Stadium, Stephen Schott Stadium-

When: Today, tomorrow, Saturday and Sunday

Matchups: Southern Illinois (13-7) at Santa Clara (5-5), Air Force (3-9) at UC Davis (6-6), Southern Illinois at UC Davis, Air Force at SJSU (5-5), Santa Clara at Air Force, UC Davis at Santa Clara, SJSU at Southern Illinois, San Jose State at Air Force, Santa Clara at Southern Illinois, UC Davis At SJSU

SJSU co-hosting baseball tournament

Jasmine Durante
Staff Writer

SJSU and Santa Clara University will co-host the inaugural Jack Gifford Memorial Tournament today through Sunday.

SJSU, Santa Clara University, UC Davis, Southern Illinois University and the Air Force Academy will take part in a 10-game baseball tournament, said Doga Gur, assistant sports information director.

Five of the games will be played at San Jose Municipal Stadium and the other five at Santa Clara's Stephen Schott Stadium, according to an SJSU Athletics news release.

"We're trying to get our legs on the ground with this tournament," said SJSU head coach Sam Piraro. There are certain aspects of our game we are trying to make incremental improvements on."

Piraro said he has high hopes for his team in this tournament.

"There are areas of our team that are below standard," he said. "This coming week is a big week for us. We want to do well, win, and make some drastic improvements."

SJSU is 5-5 this season.

"At the end of the day, and at the end of this tournament, we want to come out with a win," SJSU outfielder Alex Sofranac said.

After being swept in a three-game series to Santa Clara University over the weekend, the Spartans hope to recuperate, said SJSU pitcher John Austin.

"We are trying to bounce back from our loss over the weekend," he said. "We hope to win all of them this weekend."

The tournament was named after the late Jack Gifford, who was a fan of college baseball and a long-time supporter of several Bay Area colleges, including SJSU and Santa Clara University, according to the news release and SJSU baseball Web site.

Gur said the Spartan batting cages at Blethen Field are just some of the many contributions Gifford made to the team.

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